

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06160 071839Z
ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06160

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, GW, US
SUBJECT: US/FRG BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE

REF: STATE 61179

1. WE HAVE CONTINUED TO CONSULT WITH THE FRG REGARDING BILATERAL CSCE CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON, AND FIND THAT THEY REMAIN INTERESTED THOUGH THEY ARE NOT ABLE TO SCHEDULE A VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

2. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH MEYER-LANDRUT AND CSCE DESK OFFICER JEUTZE, BOTH OF THEM SHOWED AN INTEREST IN BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS BUT OFFERED NO SPECIFIC PLANS. KLAUS BLECH, NOW FOREIGN OFFICE PLANNING CHIEF AND SOON TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN AFFAIRS DID, HOWEVER, HAVE SOME SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS.

3. BLECH SAID IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT THE NATO CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE HAVE NOT YET GONE TO THE NUCLEUS OF THE ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE CONSIDERED. BLECH
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 BONN 06160 071839Z

ALSO SAID HE BELIEVED THE US WOULD PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE AT BELGRADE THAN IT HAD PLAYED AT GENEVA, AND THE GERMANS THEREFORE WANT TO EXCHANGE IDEAS BEFORE DECISIONS ON BELGRADE POLICY ARE MADE IN WASHINGTON OR BONN.

4. BLECH SAID THE GERMANS DID NOT WISH FORMAL CONSUL-

TATIONS OR LARGE-SCALE CONSULTATIONS AND BELIEVED THAT NO MORE THAN ONE OR ONE AND-A-HALF DAYS WOULD BE REQUIRED. HE SAID THE GERMANS DID NOT WISH TO INVITE THEMSELVES AND WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HAVE APPROPRIATE AMERICAN OFFICIALS VISIT HERE IF WE WOULD PREFER IT THAT WAY.

5. AS FOR THE LEVEL OF CONSULTATIONS, BLECH WOULD PREFER TO HAVE THEM DONE AT THE MEYER-LANDRUT LEVEL. HE SAID MEYER-LANDRUT WOULD BE PREPARED TO GO TO WASHINGTON AT THE END OF APRIL OR BEGINNING OF MAY. WE EXPECT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SPECIFIC DATA FROM JEUTZE WHEN HE RETURNS TO THE OFFICE NEXT WEEK AND WILL REPORT.

6. BLECH ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO TELL HIM OUR CURRENT ATTITUDE TOWARD SUCH CONSULTATIONS AND WHO MIGHT HANDLE THEM FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE.

7. COMMENT: AS THE EXCHANGES ON THIS SUBJECT SHOW, THERE IS STILL SOME UNCERTAINTY AS TO WHETHER OR NOT SUCH CONSULTATIONS ARE UNIVERSALLY DESIRED. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE BLECH'S POSITION AS THE SENIOR CONCERNED GERMAN OFFICIAL WILL PROBABLY REMAIN THE OFFICIAL GERMAN VIEW. IN THE MEANTIME, WE WOULD WELCOME ANY PRELIMINARY REACTION THE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE.
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